AZ.4412 () CHATHAM



BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

Medical Officer's REPORT

ON THE

Health of Chatham
During 1933.



F. A. CLEMENTS (CHATHAM) LTD., MEETING HOUSE LANE





BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

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INDEX

Introduction	PAGE 5
STATISTICS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS	8
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES Hospital Provision, Ambulance Facilities, Clinics and Treatment Centres, Nursing Services, Public Health Officers, Midwives, Chemical Work, Adoptive Acts, Local Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations.	1.4
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE Expectant and Nursing Mothers, Maternity Home, Ante Natal Work, Home Visiting, Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Provision of Food, Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children, Puerperal Mortality, Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	14
Water Supply, Analysis, Rivers and Streams, Drainage and Sewerage, Closet Accommodation, Scavenging, Sanitary Inspection of District, Other Sanitary Conditions, Schools, Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.	20
FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS	22
HOUSING	31
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD Milk, Meat, Food and Drugs Acts.	35
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	38
OTHER DISEASES	47
TUBERCULOSIS	48
RAINFALL	51

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

His Worship the Mayor—Councillor M. PACKER.

Aldermen:

H. J. CLOAKE (Chairman).

F. G. Luff.

O. TAYLOR.

A. B. WALKER.

W. J. Webb. H. F. Whyman.

Councillors:

P. Ansell.

W. BLACKMORE.

R. F. Brain.

J. Bray.

Mrs. F. M. FREEMAN.

A. Gurr.

F. O. HARRIS.

J. T. HAWES.

W. Heath.

W. J. Hedge. W. F. Hollands.

F. H. LAWRENCE.

E. G. MAYNARD.

I. PRESNAIL.

Revd. T. RYAN.

G. B. SILVER.

H. J. STEARNE.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs. F. M. FREEMAN (Chairman). Members of the Public Health Committee with the following

Co-opted Members:

Mesdames Lewis, Macmillan, Pearson, Stearne, Whyman and WOOLLETT.

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Borough of Chatham

To the Mayor Aldermen and Councillors.

MR. MAYOR, MADAM, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Report on the Sanitary Circumstances, Sickness and Mortality of the

Borough for the year 1933.

The matters falling within the purview of a Public Health Department are very numerous, and include the various social, economic and environmental factors which are attendant on modern civilization. Constant vigilance on the part of Public Health Authorities is necessary, and to make this vigilance effective the co-operation and help of every individual is requisite. The primary function of public health work is the prevention of disease, to which all else is subsidiary.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The chief features are (a) the lowest Birth Rate yet recorded,

(b) a low Death Rate, and (c) a low rate of Infant Mortality.

The continued decrease of the Birth Rate will have a profound influence on future policy—especially in regard to the provision of educational facilities. Fewer children being born, combined with the increased expectation of life means two things, a diminution of population at productive ages, and an increased proportion of elderly people in the population.

The probability is that there will be a further fall in Birth

Rates, but not in Death Rates.

INFECTIOUS SICKNESS.

Cases of Scarlet Fever of a mild type continue to occur, but the disease has not been markedly prevalent. During the last four years there has only been one death from this disease.

Diphtheria has not prevailed, and only a few sporadic cases

have been reported.

There was only one death reported from Diphtheria, but the patient had had the disease some months before, and another cause was associated.

The work of immunisation against Diphtheria continues to make satisfactory progress.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This phase of work is an acknowledged success, as proved by the remarkable diminution of infant mortality. Not all the credit is due to Maternity Centres, but is largely the result of well organised health visiting, to which they are supplementary. It is difficult to assign a relative value to the many influences which are directly or indirectly contributory. The great fact remains that there has been an enormous saving of infant lives. It is inevitable that amongst the saved there are some who will never become strong and healthy citizens. Their upbringing will require more supervision, and a proportion will always be delicate.

HOUSING.

The removal of insanitary property is making steady progress, and unfit houses are being eliminated either by the making of Clearance orders for insanitary areas, or as individual houses.

The number of houses erected by private enterprise is larger

than in any previous year.

Careful consideration is being given to the question of houses let in lodgings. The tendency to subdivide houses only intended for one family into multiple and imperfectly equipped tenements is an increasing one, and may necessitate new Bye-Laws.

Comments on the general housing conditions of the Borough will be found in the Section of the Report dealing with Housing.

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation of the loyal and zealous manner in which the Staff of the department have carried out their duties, and I am deeply sensible of the courtesy and consideration I have received from the Council.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
J. HOLROYDE,
Medical Officer of Health,

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1933

(a) Medical.

J. Holroyde, F.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

H. A. Barnes, M.B., Oxon, Assistant School Medical Officer, and Officer in charge of Immunisation Clinic (part-time).

(b) Veterinary Surgeon.

E. Ebbetts, M.R.C.V.S.

(e) Sanitary Inspectors.

W. Hughes, Senior Inspector.

T. Howard, Assistant Inspector.

G. Newman, Assistant Inspector.

The above are holders of the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificates and Meat Certificates.

(d) Health Visitors.

A. Potter, C.M.B., H.V.'s Certificate, S.R. Nurse.

M. A. Bell, C.M.B., S.R. Nurse.

F. E. Gaffney, C.M.B., Nursing Certificates.

(e) Senior Clerk.

H. Kelly.

(f) Junior Clerks.

H. L. Clark.

Miss R. Lawrence.

G. A. Pearson.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	4,356
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident	
Population	44,810
Number of inhabited houses according to	
the Rate Books	10,755
Rateable Value	£,220,807
Sum represented by a penny rate	£930

The social conditions, and topography of the District have been described in previous reports. Beyond the spread of building on the outskirts of the Borough there is no alteration.

The Dockyard remains the chief source of industry in Chatham. The building trades are active, and there is less unemployment.

Ι.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	Males	Females
Live {Legitimate Births {Illegitimate	699	368	331
Births [Illegitimate	19	9	IO
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the	ie estima	ted residént p	opulation 15.
Still Births 28		-	
Rate per 1,000 (live and	still) Bi	rths 16.6	
	Males	Females	Total
Deaths	276	241	517
Death Rate per 1,000 of e	estimated	resident popu	lation 11.5
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CA	AUSES:—		
Puerperal Sepsis			
Other Puerperal	Causes	no	one
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UND	er i Yea	AR OF AGE :	
All infants per 1,000			
Legitimate infants			
live births			55
Illegitimate infants p			
Deaths from Measles			
,, ,, Whoop			
,, ,, Diarrho			
There has been no unusu	ial or exc	essive mortali	ity during th

no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has required comment, nor has there been any specially noteworthy sickness or invalidity, there is no special occupation or environment which has prejudiced the public health, nor is there any evidence that unemployment has had any significant influence on the health or the physical condition of children or adults.

POPULATION.

The Registrar General's estimate of population up to the

middle of 1933 is 44,810, a. decrease of 60.

During the last few years, the local distribution of population has been changing. There has been a decrease in St. Mary's, Christ Church and Luton Wards, and an increase in St. Paul's, St. John's and St. Michael's Wards, the greatest increase being in St. Paul's Ward.

BIRTHS.

The number of live births credited to Chatham by the Registrar General is 718. Of this total, 583 were born in the Borough and 135 outside.

DEATHS.

The corrected number of deaths is 517.

The figures for the previous 5 years were:-

1928			 492
1929		• • •	 593
1930			 453
1931			 598
1932			 55 ⁸

From the local Registrar of Births and Deaths 457 Certificates were received. The number of residents of Chatham whose deaths occurred outside the Area was 62—making a total of 519 as compared with the Registrar General's 517—the corrected figures.

The number of deaths occurring at different ages was as

follows:---

						Difference
				1933	1932	+ or —
	der 1 year			 44	48	- 4
I 8	and under	5	years	 16	16	
5	3.3	15	2.3	 8	20	— I2
15	J J	25	1 9	 16	38	— 22
25	,,	45	3.7	 43	54	— II
45))	65	, ,	 151	127	+ 24
65 t	apwards -			 239	245	
				517	548	— 31

A very marked diminution of Mortality under the age of 45 years, and a slight increase in the two older groups. This is what one would expect from the present age grouping of the population.

Table showing Deaths for each month in each Ward of the

Borough.

Month	St. Mary's Ward	Christ Church Ward	Luton Ward	St. Paul's Ward	St. Michael's Ward	St. John's Ward	Medway	Totals
January February March April May June July August September October November December	11 8 10 9 3 2 4 1 3 4 4 10	11 2 6 4 2 5 4 1 0 2 4 5	7 6 6 3 2 1 4 3 2 4 9 4	5 4 5 2 5 5 3 2 3 4 4 3	7 6 5 4 3 2 0 1 2 3 6 8	6 4 5 4 5 2 4 4 1 6 7	9 10 15 16 12 14 12 10 11 11 12 16	56 40 52 42 32 31 31 22 22 34 46 49
Add Transfers Totals	69 11 80	46 4 50	51 11 62	45 7 52	47 11 58	51 14 65	148 4 152	457 62 519

The deaths occurring in the Medway Institution are apportioned as follows:—

St. Mary's	Ward	 	53
Christ Church	,,	 	17
Luton	,,	 	18
St. Paul's	, ,	 	15
St. Michael's	,,	 	21
St. John's	, ,	 	24

t.

Thus the total deaths belonging to each Ward are :-

St. Mary's W	Vard	133	or	26 per	cen
Christ Church	,,	67	,,	12.5	2.1
Luton	,,	80	,,	16	, ,
St. Paul's))	67	2 1	12.5	,,
St. Michael's	3 3	79	,,	16	, ,
St. John's	. 1	89		17	

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

There were 7 as compared with 3 in the previous year.

CORONERS' INQUIRIES AND INQUESTS.

The number of inquiries concerned with Chatham residents was 18, and inquests 32. Total 50.

Inquiry or Inquest was held respecting 12 non residents.

	TOTAL DEATHS. Causes of Death in Chatham M.I	В. 1933	S.D.30	Males.	Females.
	All Causes		• • •	276	241
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	rs	• • •		
2.	Measles	• • •	• • •		
3.	Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough				1
4· 5·	Diphtheria			I	
6.	Influenza			3	6
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica				
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever		• • •		I
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory Sys		***	19	II
10. II.	Other Tuberculous Diseases Syphilis		• • •	3	I
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane,			1	I
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease			31	37
14.	Diabetes			2	9
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc			13	16
16.	Heart Disease		• • •	68	64
17.	Aneurysm	• • •	• • •	4	I
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases Bronchitis	• • •	•••	8	13
19. 20.	Pneumonia (all forms)			18	5
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases			4	I
22.	Peptic Ulcer			3	ī
23.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)			4	
24.	Appendicitis			I	1
25.	Cirrhosis of liver		• • •		
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.		• • •	_	2
27.	Other Digestive Diseases Acute and Chronic Nephritis	• • •	• • •	7	7
28. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis			4	7
30.	Other Puerperal Causes				
31.	Congenital Debility, Premat				
	Malformations, etc			11	8
32.	Senility			8	11
33.	Suicide	• • • •	• • •	6	3
34.	Other Violence	• • •	• • •	21	7
35.	Other Defined Diseases Causes Ill-defined or Unknown		• • •	26	17 1
36.	Causes in-defined of Chanown				
	Special Causes (included in No.	35 ab	ove)—		
	Smallpox				
	Poliomyelitis				
	Polioencephalitis				
	Total			28	16
	Deaths of Infants Legitimate	• • •	•••	25	1 0 1 4
	under i year Illegitimate			3	2
	Total			377	341
	Live Births { Legitimate			368	331
	[Illegitimate	· · ·		9	10
	(Total			10	()
	Stillbirths { Legitimate			18	9
	Illegitimate			1	,,
	POPULATION				

The next two Tables show Deaths from certain groups of Diseases and their proportional mortality during the years 1924-1933.

Year	nfect- ious iseases	Tuber- culosis	Respir- atory Diseases including Influenza	Cancer	Diarrhœa	Heart & Circula- tion	Total Deaths from all causes
1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931	22 8 45 31 36 30 4 23	50 51 48 35 33 45 43 54 48	104 65 90 87 65 116 56 85	65 49 45 70 53 54 55 80 53	8 0 11 5 3 13 4 5 8	85 93 98 133 143 148 136 176	560 489 536 570 489 593 453 598 558

Percentage of Total Deaths (proportionate mortality).

Year	Infect- ious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Respir- atory Diseases including Influenza	Cancer	Diar- rhœa	Heart & Circula- tion	
1924	4.	9.	18.6	11.6	1.4	15.1	100
1925	1.6	10.4	13.3	10.		19.	100
1926	8.5	9.	16.8	8.4	2.	1Ś.3	100
1927	5.4	6.1	15.2	12.2	0.8	23.3	100
1928	7.3	6.9	13.3	10.8	0.6	29.2	100
1929	5.	7.6	19.4	9.	2.3	25.	100
1930	0.9	9.5	12.3	12.1	0.9	30.	100
1931	3.8	9.	14.2	13.3	0.8	29.4	100
1932	3.	8.6	13.4	9.5	1.4	34.2	100
1933	0.6	6.6	10.4	13.1	0.8	36.5	100

Average percentage of total deaths for two 5-year periods.

	Infectious Diseases.	Tuberculosis.	Respiratory Diseases.	Cancer.	Diarrhœa.	Heart and Circulation.
1924-28	5.3	8.3	15.4	10.6	0.9	21.0
1929-33	2.3	8.3	14.0	11.4	I.2	31.0

There is a marked decrease in deaths from Infectious diseases, a slight increase in Cancer, and a very considerable increase in Diseases of the Heart and Circulation. Many of the latter deaths were formerly attributed to old age, but of late years have been certified as due to myocardial degeneration, and so come under a different classification.

Inserted for comparative purposes

TABLE IN. -- BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY IN THE YEAR 1933

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales and for London have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1933, England and Wales, 118 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 132 Smaller Towns. but those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1932.

	_		Τ.		
tal	Uncertified the Seath		6.0	0.5	10 00 1.3
Percentage of Total Deaths	Sertified by strer strer No Inquest	P.M	I.9	2.5	1. 7. 8. 7. 4.70
rcentag De	səseə tsənbi	ıI	6.3	0.9	6.3 6.3
Pe	Sertified by stered Medical ractitioners	Regi	6.06	0.19	91.7 88.3 89.1
per Live ths	otal Deaths der One year)	oun)	64	29	95 944 44
Rate per 1,000 Live Births	arrhæa and Enteritis er Two years)		7.1	4.6	4.9 7.7
	Violence		0.54	0.49	4.0 0
tion	Fznenza		0.57	0.55	0.53 0.51
Popula	SirədidqiC	I	90.0	0.08	0.04 0.08 0.02
1,000	Whooping Aguo Aguo	١	0.05	90.0	0.04 0.08 0.02
rate pe	Scarlet Fever		0.02	0.02	0.02
Death	Measles		0.05	0.06	0.04 0.02 0.00
Annual Death rate per 1,000 Population	Smallpox		00.00	0.00	0.00
4.	-sia Para- siola fevers	dyr dyr	10.0	0.00	0.00
	Il Causes	Ą	12.3		11.0
e t	r 500 11a-	Still- Births	14.4 0.62	14.4 0.67 12.2	0.63 0.45 0.6
Rate	per 1,000 Popula- tion	Live Births	14.4	I4.4	14.5 13.2 15.1
			England and Wales	and Great Towns, including London	(Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) London Chatham

Total Births (per 1,000 Live Births The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows:-

Others 2.63 Puerperal Sepsis

- [otal 4.42
- 4.23

Section B.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The arrangements remain as described in previous Reports. All the Council's work is done at the County Council Laboratory at Maidstone, and is in every respect satisfactory.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Cases requiring removal to the Joint Hospital for Infectious Diseases are taken by the Hospitals' Ambulance.

The Ambulance belonging to the Borough is used for the removal of infected bedding and clothing to the Council's Disinfecting Station.

There are two Ambulances for general use. The service is very efficient, and operates widely outside the District.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

General Nursing is provided by the District Nursing Association, which has a staff of 3 nurses.

By arrangement the services of these nurses are available for the home nursing of Measles, Whooping Cough or Diphtheria, if the latter is unduly prevalent, and Hospital accommodation cannot be secured.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Puerperal Sepsis are visited by the Health Visitors, who give such assistance as may be necessary.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(1) Maternity and Child Welfare,

Élm House, New Road.

(a) Ante-Natal—once a month.

(b) Children under 5 years of age—
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2.30 p.m.

Fridays ... 2.30 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation—

Wednesdays ... 2 p.m.

School Clinics—

Minor Ailments ... daily 9.15 a.m.

Dental ... Wednesdays and Fridays
9.30 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 4.30.

Tuberculosis Dispensary—13 New Road, Rochester.
Tuesday afternoon and evening and Friday morning.

Venereal Diseases Clinic—36 New Road, Rochester. Daily.

Hospitals, Voluntary—St. Bartholomews' Hospital, Rochester. A general Hospital with Special Ophthalmic, Throat, Aural and Orthopædic Departments, and a well equipped Laboratory.

There are 126 beds, 14 of which in an annexe are reserved for

paying patients.

There are 65 surgical beds, 26 medical, 23 children, 8 ophthalmic and 4 orthopædic.

MEDWAY HOSPITAL.

This is a Public Assistance Hospital.

The number of beds is 455. They are utilised as follows:—

General Medical	and	Surgical		152
Children		• • •		26
Maternity				6
Tuberculosis				26
Chronic Sick				124
Mental				113
Other				8
Tuberculosis Chronic Sick Mental	• • •	•••	• • •	26 124

It is proposed to erect New Wards for 90 beds, and an Operating Theatre. This will materially improve the bed accommodation in the District, and should render possible an increase in the Surgical work, which is at present restricted to emergencies.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(i). Midwives.

The Number registered is ... 8 practising is ... 9

The supervision of Midwives is in the hands of the Kent County Council.

No midwives are subsidised by the Local Authority.

Maternal Mortality.

All notified cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia

are visited, inquiries made, and advice offered.

A personal investigation of Maternal Deaths is made by the Medical Officer of Health.

(ii). Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children.

Cases needing treatment are admitted to the Medway Hospital, or to the Voluntary Hospital if suitable, and if accommodation is available.

The Rochester Diocesan Society and the Salvation Army have homes in the Borough, and take in a few unmarried mothers and children.

There is a Maternity Ward at the Medway Hospital, and cases are sent at reduced fees to the Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Home.

(iii). Health Visitors.

The Council employs three Health Visitors, each having a

special district.

Their duties are confined to the care of children under School age, and include home visiting, and attendance at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

They act as Infant Protection Visitors, and pay special visits to cases of Measles, Whooping Cough, Puerperal Sepsis, and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

All the duties are directed and supervised by the Medical Officer of Health.

(iv). Infant Life Protection.

CHILDREN ACT 1908—AMENDED 1932.

The number of children on the Register is 25.

The Act applies to children under 9 years of age, who are maintained for reward.

105 visits have been made to the homes, and several of the younger children are brought to the Child Welfare Centre.

(v). Orthopædic Treatment.

Children brought to the Infant Welfare Centre, who are found to be suffering from congenital or acquired deformities, are sent to the Orthopædic Department at the General Hospital.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

There is only one Registered Home in Chatham. Medical, Surgical and Maternity Cases are admitted.

There are 12 beds, and the general arrangements and equipment are very satisfactory.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1933.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	I-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Measles Whooping Cough Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Tuberculous Meningitis Abdominal Tuberculosis Other forms Tuberculosis Meningitis (Non- Tubercular) Convulsions Bronchitis. Pneumonia Diarrhœal Diseases Syphilis Rickets Suffocation (overlaying) Injury at Birth Atelectasis Congenital Malformation Premature Birth Atrophy, Debility Marasmus Other Causes	I 2 1 7 —			I - I -						I
Totals	II	6	4	2	23	6	7	3	5	44

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The scheme in operation includes home visiting of children up to the age of 5 years, a well equipped Child Welfare Centre, an Ante Natal Centre for expectant mothers, maternity beds at the Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Home (patients being charged according to their means), the supply of dried milk to expectant and nursing mothers, the provision of dental treatment, and treatment for certain minor ailments, visiting and supervision of boarded out children, and a Mothercraft Class, the latter being a voluntary organisation.

The inspection of Womens' Sanitary Conveniences is carried

out by one of the Health Visitors.

The arrangements for health visiting are framed, so that the infant is visited 10 days after birth, and at frequent intervals during the first year—as a rule 8 visits, then at increasing intervals until the age of 5 years is attained.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS, 1907-1915.

Live Births Not	ified	 	736
Still Births		 	24
By Midwives		 	669
By Doctors		 	91

After correcting for inward and outward transfers the notified births were 696 or 96 per cent. of the total registered.

106 births took place in the R.N. & M. Home, 8 in the Military Families Hospital, and 14 in private Maternity Homes.

A total of 17.4 per cent. in Institutions.

HOME VISITING.

Children under 1 year of age.

Primary	Visits		 	771
Subseque	ent Visit	S	 	7731

Children 1 to 5 years.

4936 Visits.

Expectant Mothers.

Primary	Visits	 	107
Subseque	ent Visits	 	158

FEEDING OF INFANTS.

The method of feeding indicated is that in operation at the Health Visitors' first call.

Breast fed only		 	338
Breast and Bot	tle	 	342
Bottle only		 	90

By far the largest number of bottle fed infants are given some brand of dried or condensed milk.

A satisfactory feature of health visiting is the improvement which takes place in some of the dirty homes. 53 of these definitely improved.

WORKING MOTHERS.

There were 74. Most of them were Hawkers or Charwomen.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Held at Elm House, New Road on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. An extra session for weighing only and for the issue of dried milk is held on Fridays.

New Cases		• • •	• • •	462
Under I year				305
I to 5 years				85
Expectant Mot	hers			72

Attendances.

Infants under 1	vear		 2867
I to 5 years	_		877
Total		• • •	 3744

ANTE NATAL CLINIC.

This is held once a month.

72 expectant mothers attended, making 213 attendances.

It is a rule of the Central Midwives' Board that all practising midwives must carry out certain ante natal examinations, with a view of detecting abnormalities.

Fortunately serious abnormalities are not frequent, and the majority of pregnancies run a normal and uninterrupted course.

At the Clinic advice is given regarding the general hygiene of pregnancy, the management of minor defects, and pelvic measurements and the examination of urine are undertaken.

Should any serious abnormality be discovered, the midwife or doctor is notified and the patient is advised to secure treatment.

30 cases were admitted to the R.N. & M. Maternity Home at reduced fees.

73 children under 5 years were referred for Hospital treatment, including Talipes, Phimosis, Nævi, Squint and Hernia, and 41 children were given dental treatment.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER.

This is obtained from deep borings into the Chalk, supplemented by a small quantity from the lower greensand.

It is abundant in quantity, and excellent in quality.

There are 4 pumping stations, and 4 storage reservoirs, and extensions at Nashenden are contemplated.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations have been made

during the year.

The chemical analyses are satisfactory. The water has a high degree of temporary hardness, and is very suitable for drinking purposes.

Bacteriological analyses of 16 samples taken at different periods

of the year show a satisfactory condition of the supply.

The following is a summary of the analyses.

Organisms per C.C. at 20° C. ... 5 Organisms per C.C. at 20° C. R.L. less than 1 Organisms per C.C. at 37° C. ... 2

Organisms per C.C. at 37° C. ... 2
Coliform organisms—absent from 50 C.C. of the water.
The Chlorination of one of the sources of supply is being continued.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Borough of Gillingham is now a constituent of the Joint Sewerage Board.

Houses are still being connected to the system, but the rate of progress has for various reasons slowed down, such as want of money,

and doubts as to the fitness of certain dwellings.

Between 70 and 80 per cent. of the houses in Chatham are now linked up with the Main Drainage System, resulting in a great diminution of cesspool emptying, and its attendant nuisance.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Medway is a large tidal river, and except for factories, and farm lands higher up stream, the chief source of pollution is from vessels in the tideway.

No action has been taken.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A detailed list will be found under the Sanitary Inspector's Statement.

The chief feature is the considerable increase in the number of Closets provided with flushing cisterns, and a decrease in the number of open privies. These latter have no place in an urban area. There should be none.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

With the exception of the removal of fish offal, which is effected by the Public Health Department, all public cleansing such as the removal of household and trade refuse, and the cleansing of streets and gullies is carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Staff.

The methods of removal, types of receptacle, and place of deposit have been described in previous reports. There has been

no alteration during the year.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

In Chatham this very necessary and valuable work is continued throughout the year, and not for one week only, as in the Annual Rat Weeks.

The following is a statement of the work accomplished during 1933.

Number of Rats caught in Dwellinghouses		84
Number of Rats caught in Shops, Stores, etc.		811
Number of Rats caught at Street End Shoot, Lu	ton	3192
Total		4087
Number of Roits laid in Drugllinghouses		601
Number of Baits laid in Dwellinghouses		694
Number of Baits laid in Shops, Stores, etc.		646
Number of Baits laid at Street End Shoot		
Total		1340
Number of Vernick Boards laid		
Number of Varnish Boards laid		4
Number of Days worked by Rat Catcher		221
Number of new applications		76

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, Laundries and Homework.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspectors of Nuisances.

	Number of			
Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.	
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	46	I	_	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises in	135	3	_	
Part 3 of this Report)	_	-	_	
Total	181	4		

2.—Defects Found.

	No.	of Defe	ects.	
Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of cleanliness	I	I	←-	_
Want of ventilation	_	_	_	
Overcrowding	_	_	_	_
Want of Drainage of floors	_	-	_	_
Other Nuisances	3	2	_	_
Sanitary insufficient	_	_	_	_
Accommodation unsuitable or defective	-	_	_	_
not separate for sexes	-	_	_	_
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Act:				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse	-	-	_	_
Breach of special sanitary requirements for				
bakehouses	-	_	_	-
Other offences (excluding offences relating to				
outwork which are not included in Part				
3 of this report)	_	_	_	
Total	4	3	_	

3.—Homework.

		Outworkers' Lists					Outwork in Unwhole-some Premises		i infe	work n ected nises	
Wearing Apparel		Sending once in the year.		Sending twice in the year.		d on		Served		ed.	
making, etc.	Lusts.	Contractors	Workmen.	Lists.	Contractors	Worknaen.	Notices served as to keeping o	Instances	Notices Ser	Instances	Notices Served.
	_	_	_	15	8	267	13	-	-	-	_
Total	_	-	_	15	8	267	13	-	-	_	-

4.—Registered Workshops.

		Class.					Number.
Tenement Workshops Workshop Bakehouses Domestic Workshops	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	- 8 42
Laundries (Workshops) Other Workshops	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		J	2 55
Total number	of W	orksho	ps on 1	Register	r	• • •	114

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:— Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts:—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	_
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	_
Other Matters	
Certificates granted during the year	-
In use at the end of the year	2

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

This is a question which rarely affects this area, but during 1933, several complaints have been received respecting one business undertaking, not so much as regards dense smoke, as the deposit on premises in the vicinity, of grit and sooty particles.

The complaints were well grounded and numerous inspections and observations have been carried out. The owners agreed to the erection of new plant, and this work is now in progress, and is

expected to bring about an abatement of the nuisance.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition and water supply of public elementary schools is satisfactory and the action taken in relation to the health of the scholars, and for preventing the spread of infectious disease is based on the advice given in the Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School, 1927.

The following Statement has been received from the Senior Sanitary Inspector:—

Dear Sir,

I herewith append my report of the work carried out in the Public Health Department during the year ending, 31st December, 1933.

CESSPOOL WORK.

1,078 applications were made during the year to empty cesspools, this being 601 less than in the preceding year. 376 of these applications were found to be choked drains. The reduction in the cost of this work is now approximately £10,000 per annum.

DRAINAGE CONNECTIONS TO THE CORPORATION SEWERS.

During the past year, 827 house drains were connected to the Corporation Sewers. The total number of house drains connected to the Sewer is 8,275 or 75% of the houses in the Borough. There has been a slight falling off in the number of connections made during the past year, this has been chiefly due to the tenant owners being unable to find the money to do the work, but where a Building Society have been interested in the property, in many cases I have been able to get the Society to extend further money to cover the cost of the work.

WORK EXECUTED IN CONNECTING HOUSE DRAINS TO THE CORPORATION SEWERS.

Covers to existing Inspection Chambers provided	I
Drains of old buildings relaid	492
Drains of old buildings part relaid	73
Inspection Chambers and Covers provided	647
Inspection Chambers reconstructed	42
New W.C. pans provided	510
New Flushing Cisterns	357
New Sinks	205
New Sink Waste pipes	536
New W.C. Structures	77
New W.C. Floors	336
New Yards	218
New yard gullies	527
Privies converted to water closets	13
Sink wastes repaired	5
Vent shafts provided	249
Vent shafts repaired, highered, etc	32
W.C. structures repaired	92
W.C. floors repaired	123
Yards repaired	282
Miscellaneous (rain water pipes, gutters, flushing	
cisterns, etc. repaired)	476

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The several kinds of closet accommodation in the Borough are:

Closets with flu				 10,181
Closets without	flushi	ing ciste	erns	 461
Open privies				 64
Pail closets				 49

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are nine private slaughterhouses in the Borough, eight are registered and one is licenced, to which 2,446 visits were made for the purpose of meat inspection. It was only found necessary to serve two Notices to repair.

One of the registered slaughterhouses was rebuilt during the year. The internal walls were built of white glazed bricks to a height of 6 feet, and above this to the roof the walls are lined with white glazed tiles.

There is an overhead carriageway to convey the dressed

carcases clear of the slaughtering of other animals.

UNSOUND	FOOD SUR	REND	ERE	D.			
Bovine	Carcases ar	nd Offa	ls	Tuberculosis			13
,,	Hindquarte	ers		, ,			I
,,	Forequarte	rs		* 1			I
,,	Lungs			,,			36
,,	Livers))			9
,,	Heads and	Tongu	es	,,			5
,,	Stomachs	• • •		11			I
* 33	Diaphragm	.S		,,			3
, ,	Mesenteries			• •			4
,,	Intestines			"			3
, ,	Udder	• • •		1)			I
,,	Heart			,,			I
,,	Kidneys			, ,			4
Pig Ca	rcases and C)ffal		,,			6
", Не	eads			,,			100
	ings			"			20
	vers			,,			16
	omachs))			I
,, In	testines			, ,			7
,, Sp	leen			, ,			I
,, Fo	requarters			,,			2
Bovine	Carcases &	Offals		Emaciation as	nd Dr	opsv	3
Calf Ca	rcase and O	ffal		Immaturity			I
Sheep	Carcases and	l Offals	S	Emaciation			26
,,	, ,	, ,		Fevered			' 4
Bovine	Hindquarte	rs (chil	lled)	Fibrous			2
,,	, ,	•••		Abscess			I
,,	, ,			Bruised			I
,,	Livers	• • •		Distomatosis			4
2.1	1 1			Cirrhosis			28
, ,	,,			Abscess		• • •	4
2.1	,,			Cavernous Ang			4
,,	٠,			Echinococcus	Cysts		2
,,	Head and T	ongue		Abscess			I
,,	2.1	, ,		Actinomycosis			I
,,	Udders			Abscess			3
Bovine	Udders			Mammitis			4
,,	Kidney			Echinococcus (Cysts		I
,,	1)			Nephritis			I
,,,	Lungs	• • •		Abscess			I
0	vers			Cirrhosis			43
	ings			Pneumonia			8
	ndquarters		• • •	Bruised			I
Sheep	Livers		• • •	Distomatosis	• • •		41
, ,	TD11.		• • •	Cirrhosis	• • •	• • •	18
,,	Plucks		• • •	Strongylosis	···	• • •	6
,,	,, IZ: -l		• • •	Echinococcus (Cysts		9
3 1	Kidney	• • •	• • •	Cystic			I

Decomposition.

7					
Forequarters Shee	ер		 	• • •	 2
Hindquarters,	,		 		 I
Bovine Livers			 		 27
Parcels of Meat			 		 22
Sheep Livers			 	• •]•	 47
Pig Plucks			 		 79
Bovine Kidneys		• • •	 		 6
Pig ,,			 	• • •	 74
Rabbits			 		 65
Corned Beef (6lb.	tins)		 		 6
Fish (Boxes)	,		 		 15
Winkles			 		 2
Peaches (Boxes)			 		 6
Total weight					

Total weight: 7 tons, 9 cwts, 1 qr. 2 lbs.

COLD STORAGE.

There are within the Borough two Cold Stores, Messrs. Swift, Nelson Road, and Messrs. Gamman's Ltd., Medway Street. These two Cold Stores supply foreign meat to butchers over a wide area. The practice of cutting sheep carcases for the detection of Caseous Lymphadenitis has been discontinued.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 8 Common Lodging Houses on the Register to which 28 visits were made, I Notice was served to repair and 2 to cleanse.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

33 Houses let in lodgings are on the register to which 43 visits were made. Nos. 3, 5, and 5a Cannon Street are the principal houses. New wash-houses and sanitary accommodation were provided, 2 Notices were served to repair and 3 to cleanse.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 21 registered Cowsheds and 10 Registered Cowkeepers, 4 wholesale producers, 1 Purveyor of Pasteurised Milk, 1 Purveyor of Certified Milk, 24 Registered Milkshops, 113 Purveyors of Sterilised Milk. 190 visits were made to these places. 3 Notices were served to cleanse and 2 Notices to repair.

Mixed samples of milk are taken each half year from the Dairyfarms at the time of milking and submitted to the County Medical Officer, Sessions House, Maidstone, for T.B. Test.

FISH OFFAL COLLECTION.

There are 12 Fish Shops and 1 Market Stall taking the Corporation Bins for Fish Offal. The offal is collected daily and there has been no change in the charge for collection. The charge for the bins is 2/- per week and the offal is sold to a local farmer, the purchase price being £26 per annum.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 26 fish fryers, I gut scraper, 4 marine store dealers, and 3 knacker yards in the Borough—very little flaying is done here, the dead carcases being taken direct to London and there flayed. I33 visits were made to the several premises, 3 Notices being served to repair and 8 to cleanse.

BAKEHOUSES.

18 Bakehouses are on the Register, 10 Factory and 8 Workshop Bakehouses—2 of the latter are underground. 72 visits were made to the bakehouses, 1 Notice was served to repair.

Periodical notices are served calling attention to the time

for limewashing, this tends to keep in a clean condition.

MORTUARY.

The	number of	bodies	remove	d to t	the Mor	tuary	was:
	Males						13
	Females						4
	Children						12
	Number of	Post	Mortem	Exa	minatio	ons	25
	Bodies bur	ried at	the cos	t of t	he pari	sh	4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital:—Enteric Fever, 2, Diphtheria, 24, Scarlet Fever, 110—263 loads of infected bedding were removed and disinfected, 53 library books from the Public Library, 25 from Private Circulating Libraries, and 18 School Books were disinfected. A request was received from the Circle Private Library that all of their books found on infected premises, should be given to the Isolation Hospital—this is being done. Visits paid, 203. Notices to repair, 26, to cleanse 10.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT AND CATTLE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1925.

I am pleased to state that no cases of either the Contagious Diseases of Animals Act, or the Cattle Tuberculosis Order have occurred within the Borough during the year. This is the first time this has occurred for many years.

NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

~ ~		~ ~ ~				
Preliminar	y Notice	S				333
Statutory	Notices,	Sec.	94	P.H.A.	1875	71
,,	,,	11	17	H.T.P.A	. 1930	3
,,	,,	,,	19	,,	, ,	I
,,	,,	,,		,,,	,,,	I
,,	,,,	,,	98	Chathan		
				porati	on Act	2

VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

D. A. A.				
Restaurants		• • •	• • •	41
Drainage and subsequent		• • •	• • •	1,587
Repairs and subsequent vi				832
Housing Act and subseque	nt visits	S	• • •	764
Miscellaneous	• • •			302
Slaughterhouses				2,446
Houses let in lodgings				42
Common Lodging Houses				28
Fish Fryers	• • •			III
Marine Stores	• • •			4
Knackers Yards				II
Gut Factory		• • •		7
Cowsheds				43
Milkshops				147
Workshops				103
Outworkers				169
Bakehouses				72
Houses first visits (compla				428
Ice Cream Vendors				14
Public Conveniences	•••	• • •		28
Contagious Diseases of An				27
Market				4
Stables				67
Courts and Alleys				41
Piggeries	• • •	•••	• • •	6
Infectious Diseases		• • •		203
Tuberculosis		• • •	• • •	76
O 1'	• • •	• • •		•
Bedding and Disinfection	• • •	• • •.	• • •	15
Unsound Food and Cold S	···	• • •	• • •	47
T 1 01		• • •	• • •	95
Cabaala			• • •	36
		• • •	• • •	120
Drains tested (new)	• • •	• • •		39
Cesspools		• • •	• • •	53
Animals kept as to be a nu		• • •	• • •	7
Accumulations of refuse	• • •		• • •	57
Observations for grit and s	smoke ei	mission		71
Verminous premises		• • •	• • •	70
Council House Applicants		• • •	• • •	57
Rats Orders		• • •		2
Gipsy Encampment				8
			-	
Total		• • •		8,280

NUISANCES ABATED AND OTHER REPAIRS.

Accumulation of refuse, etc.	, remov	zed -	• • •	33
Broken W.C. Pans replaced			• • •	8
Ceilings whitened				57
Ceilings repaired				36
Cesspool covers repaired, rea	newed o	or seale	d	Ι
Chimney pots replaced				2
Chimney stacks repaired			• • •	7
Choked drains cleared				7 6
Coppers repaired, provided	or rebu	ilt		20
Doors or frames repaired				17
Doors provided or renewed				2
Drainage of old buildings re	laid		• • •	Ι
Drains repaired				12
Drains ventilated				2
Firegrates repaired or renew	red			13
Firegrates repaired				6
Floors repaired or cleansed				59
Flues repaired				I
Flushing cisterns repaired				15
Flushing cisterns provided				3
Gutters or downpipes cleare	ed			14
Gutters or downpipes repair		e-hung		41
Gutters or downpipes provide				2
Inspection pits provided				Ι
Interiors cleansed				57
Keeping animals in an unfit	state			8
Doors, locks or fasteners me				2
Manure pits provided			• • •	2
Overcrowding abated				3
Privy structures repaired			• • •	5
Roofs repaired				92
Sashcords repaired				37
Sash fasteners repaired				I
Sinks provided or renewed				7
Sink waste pipes provided				ΙΙ
Sink waste pipes repaired				3
Stairs or treads repaired				8
Walls repaired				78
W.C. Pans re-set				5
Wash-houses repaired or lin	newash			I
W.C. structures limewashed				2
W.C. seats or risers repaired				2
Weatherboarding or externa		repaire	ed	14
Windows re-glazed				5
				-

Window frames and sashes	repa	ired		33
Yard paving repaired				0
Yard gullies renewed				2
Grills provided to yard gull	ies			2
W.C. structures re-built		• • •		2
Verminous bedding or pren	nises	cleansed	l	5
W.C. structures repaired				2
Miscellaneous				III
Drains connected to sewer				executed
		in con	necti	ng house
		drains	to	Corpora-
		tion Se	wer.	

W. HUGHES, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Section D.

HOUSING

I.	INS	PECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES.
	(I)	(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected
	\ /	for housing defects (under Public Health
		or Housing Acts) 674
		(b) Number of inspections made for that
		purpose 992
	(2)	(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included
	(/	under the preceding heading) which were
		inspected and recorded under the Housing
		Consolidated Regulations, 1925 143
		(b) Number of inspections made for that
		purpose 764
	(3)	
	(0)	state so dangerous or injurious to health as
		to be unfit for human habitation 92
	(4)	
	(17	those referred to under the preceding sub-
		heading) found not to be in all respects
		reasonably fit for human habitation 51
		, and the second
Ħ	RI	EMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL
		OTICES.
		umber of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit
	210	in consequence of <i>Informal</i> action by the
		Local Authority or their officers 239
		239

III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

 110	TON UNDER STITUTORY TO WELLS.
<i>A</i> .	Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930:— (I) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring
	repairs
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —
<i>B</i> .	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:— (I) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.
	defects to be remedied 71 (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—
	(a) By owners 65 (b) By Local Authority in default of owners
<i>C</i> .	Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:—
	 (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished
	in pursuance of Demolition Orders I
D.	Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:— (1) Number of separate tenements or under-
	ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made I
	(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined—the tenement or room having been rendered
	fit — Total number of houses owned by the Local
	Authority 390

There has been considerable housing activity during 1933, and an effort to get rid of the insanitary dwellings which have disfigured parts of the town is in progress.

A few of the worst spots on and in the vicinity of the Brook were demolished prior to the war. Since the end of the war progress has been slow. Demolition entails displacement of occupants, and alternative accommodation was not available, chiefly because building was retarded by high costs.

Under the Act of 1930, it is now possible to secure the clearance of insanitary groups of houses, and of individual houses which are

not fit for habitation.

A programme of work for the five years, 1931-1935 has been drawn up, and in May, 1931, a Representation with regard to what is known as the Brook Area was made. This included an area comprising King Street, Queen Street, part of Cross Street, and the Brook, with the various courts and alleys adjoining. sideration it was decided to deal with the area in two portions. No. I Clearance Area included the whole of Queen Street, and a portion of Cross Street, In all there were 36 separate dwellings. As the result of appeals an inquiry was held by the Ministry in January, 1933, and with the exception of one dwelling, the Clearance order was confirmed, and the Area is now cleared, accommodation for the displaced tenants having been provided elsewhere. During 1933 I made a Representation with regard to the second part of the Brook Area (No. 2 Clearance Area), and the Council being satisfied as to the representation declared the area to be a Clearance Area. This is now being dealt with. In my Report for 1932, I drew attention to the need for dealing drastically with some of the old and insanitary property in the town, and intimated that nothing but radical measures will be of any avail. There are houses which are so dilapidated and worn out, so saturated with filth, and so devoid of necessary conveniences and amenities, defectively lighted and ventilated, often damp and verminous, that the attempt to patch them up would be a waste of money, as no one could guarantee anything but a short life for them.

In pursuance of this policy, several houses have been reported as unfit individual houses, and in other cases arrangements for reconditioning have been made with the owners, without having

recourse to official notices.

There is still much to be done, but before very long Chatham should be reasonably free from reproach as to its housing. In all cases where demolition is ordered, alternative accommodation is provided. Houses can now be built to let at a rental within the means of the majority of working class people, and there is very little difference in the cost of a three and two bedroomed house, so little that the three bedrooms type should be the rule, together with a very limited number of small dwellings for aged couples.

An important aspect of the housing question, apart from the condition of the dwelling is overcrowding. Several cases have

been reported to the Council, and I hope that provision will be made for the relief of this very serious condition.

Overcrowding is of three kinds.

- (a) Where the accommodation is inadequate for the size of the family.
- (b) Sex overcrowding.
- (c) Too many families in one house.

All forms of overcrowding are prejudicial to health, and as regards sex overcrowding, there is the addition of moral danger,

and offence against decency.

There is much subletting of dwellings when more than one family occupy a house not constructed or adapted for joint occupation, and where the cooking arrangements, storage of food, washing and sanitary conveniences are inadequate. The census returns of 1931 showed an excess of 800 separate families over the number of structurally separate dwellings.

An aspect of overcrowding not often realised is that some tenants connive at it by retaining adult children, who are earning wages, and contributing to the maintenance of the household, as members of the family. They argue that as they have been at the expense of rearing these children, now that they are able to earn wages, they should make some return in the shape of contribution

to household expenses.

The connection between bad housing and bad health has been fully demonstrated, and the substitution of clean, light, and airy dwellings complete with all necessary conveniences, for the old insanitary, damp, dark, overcongested, places which are now disappearing should produce a marked improvement in the health and personal habits of the people concerned. Such is my hope and my belief. In the future, Local Authorities will have to exercise vigilant supervision in regard to houses, because if supervision is neglected, and dirt and disrepair are unchecked, sooner or later a future slum problem will arise.

During the year, 272 plans for new dwellinghouses were

approved, and 221 were completed.

32 houses were erected with State Assistance by the Local

Authority.

There are many back to back houses which can only be rendered fit for habitation by conversion into through dwellings, but this entails dispossession of families for which the grant per head is not available. Unless Local Authorities can secure grant it is not possible to build houses which could be let at a rent the people would be able to pay, and the only alternative is to condemn this type of dwelling as unfit for habitation.

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

This is one of the most important duties of a Sanitary Authority and constant vigilance, and frequent inspections are necessary. A list of places so supervised is given in the Sanitary Inspectors Statement, together with a record of the visits paid by the Inspectors.

MILK.

All farms and dairies are the subject of frequent visits, and this leads to a much greater degree of cleanliness than would be otherwise obtainable. In addition, quarterly visits are paid by the Veterinary Surgeon and animals examined for any signs of disease, and for cleanliness.

If any breach of the Milk and Dairies Order 1926 is discovered,

a warning notice is sent to the owner.

There have been no legal proceedings during 1933. In two instances the Committee was advised of infringements of the order respecting the filling of bottles in an unauthorised place, and of the absence of identification marks on a vehicle used for the transport of milk. Communications were sent warning against a repetition of the offence.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.

There is one licensed retailer of Certified Milk, and of Pasteurised Milk. The firm's premises are in Rochester, but they operate largely through the Medway Towns.

Year by year deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis occur, and it is proved that the majority of the victims have been infected

by Milk containing tubercle bacilli.

The plain fact is that many animals are suffering from tubercular infection, and that the bacilli from even one infected animal becoming distributed in the mixed milk of a herd is a source of danger.

Short of eliminating all tubercular animals—an impracticable step, the only remedy is to pasteurise all milk. This process does not destroy the nutritive value of the fluid, but it does kill disease producing organisms.

It is essential that the process is carried out in an efficient

manner.

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSES OF MILK.

Seven samples of mixed milk were examined for Tubercle Bacilli. In one instance a positive result was obtained. A veterinary examination of the herd was made, and subsequently an inoculation test took place with negative results.

In three of the animals examined the udders were indurated, and pus was present. The sale of milk from these animals was

discontinued.

INSPECTIONS OF MILCH COWS.

The average number of cows giving milk is 180.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The Slaughter of Animals' Act, passed in 1933, is a humanitarian rather than a Hygienic Act. Its intention is to abolish cruelty, but if Authorities who for some years have had Bye-Laws regulating humane slaughtering in operation, do not by resolution add sheep and goats to the list of animals coming within the provisions of the Act, their then Bye-Laws lapse. The inference of the Act is that unless an animal is previously rendered unconscious the act of killing is cruel—but on account of religious scruples, Jews and Mahommedans may practise cruelty—but the Gentile is forbidden to do so.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT REGULATIONS), 1924.

A statement of the number of slaughterhouses, and the visits paid by Inspectors will be found in the Sanitary Inspectors' Statement.

The provisions of the Regulations with regard to notice of intended slaughtering are well observed, and facilitate the inspection of carcases, and the discovery of disease.

POTTED AND PRESERVED MEAT.

All premises where any kind of potted or preserved meats are prepared are visited at frequent and irregular intervals. There are 8 on the Register.

RESTAURANTS, ICE CREAM.

Kitchens of restaurants and eating houses, and places where Ice Cream is made or stored are under constant supervision. The method of distribution of ice cream is greatly improved, and the street barrow where it was ladled out with a dirty spoon into a dirty glass by individuals not conspicuous for personal cleanliness is rarely seen.

Of the 53 sellers of ice cream on the Register, the majority

make and sell very small quantities on the premises.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1928.

Samples are taken by the County Police, and I am indebted to Superintendent Hickmott for the following particulars of samples

taken in Chatham, during 1933.

CONTROLL THE CITCOLL	,	C. C. 1117	5 - 7JJJ.			
New Milk			66	Cocoa Essence		 I
Butter			15	Cocoa		 I
Margarine			10	Baking Powder		 I
Lard			2	Tea		 I
Fresh Cream			2	Cornflour		 I
Sterilised Milk			3	Whiskey		 5
Castor Sugar			I	Brandy		 I
Cooking Sugar			I	Rum		 I
Jam			I	Citric Acid		 I
Coffee			I	Mercury Ointm	ent	 I
Mustard			I	Camphor Linim		 I
			Total	118		
XX71.11			C .	1 11		

With the exception of two samples, all were genuine.

Two prosecutions were made.

(1) Selling New Milk deficient in fat to the extent of over 15%. Fined 20/-.

2) Selling New Milk deficient in fat to the extent of over

15%. Fined 40/-.

If any bacteriological examination of suspected food is required, the Laboratory of the Kent County Council at Maidstone is available.

NUTRITION.

No special measures in regard to the dissemination of knowledge

on this subject have been taken.

In regard to Health Education generally—the Empire Marketing Board Frames have been taken over by the Council, and are used for the exhibition of posters dealing with Health, and supplied monthly by the Health and Cleanliness Council.

The periodical "Better Health" has been discontinued owing

to lack of advertising support.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Of the common acute infectious diseases there has been no great prevalence, and there have been no deaths.

The number of Scarlet Fever Cases was approximately the same as in 1932, and Diphtheria rather more.

The following Tables give particulars of:—

(a) Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified, admitted to Hospital, and Deaths during 1933.

(b) Infectious Diseases during 1933, including Tuberculosis, classified according to ages.

(c) Ward Distribution of Infectious Diseases, including Tuberculosis during 1933.

(d) The number of cases of notifiable Infectious Diseases, from 1924 to 1933.

(a) Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) and Deaths during the year 1933.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	25	24	_
Scarlet Fever	146	IIO	_
Pneumonia	29		2
Puerperal Pyrexia	I		_
Puerperal Fever	I		-
Erysipelas	IO		_
Encephalitis Lethargica.			_
Acute Poliomyelitis			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2		_
Malaria			_
Enteric Fever	2	2	
Meningococcal Meningitis	I	I	
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	I	I	_
	*		

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1933. (AGES.)

1	ary														
Tubereulosis	Non- Pulmonary	I	H	1		1	I	H	I	I	2	I	1	1	6
Tuber	Pulmonary	1		1			I	r	∞	∞	12	7	IO	3	50
	Spinal Menin- gitis				1	1	61	1		1	1	1			C1
The state of the s	Fever			ı	1	1		1	1	I	1	J	ı	1	2
Phorneral					 				1	H	1	ı	ı	1	I
Duerperal	Fever			1	1	1	1		1	1	I	1	1	1	П
	Pneumonia	1	I	ı	ı	8	3	2	3	I	4	9	3	3	29
OF	Neon- atorum	61	1	1	1		1	1	ı	1	ı	1	1	1	C1
Fresin	elas	1	I	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	I	2	3	8	10
	Diphtheria		1	I	1	61	12	9	3	1	I	1	1	1	25
Searlet	Fever	3	3	3	12	.12	09	37	9	2	4	3	Ι		146
	Age	Under I year	I-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-25 years	25-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 years up	Totals

(c) INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1933.

WARDS.

	Ophthalmia Neon-	a Puerperal	Puerperal Enteric Spinal	Enteric	Cerebro-	Frveinelas	Tuber	Tuberculosis
monia	atorum	Fever	Pyrexia	Fever	Menin- gitis	to yorking	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary
6 -	I	I	1	ı	1	I	6	7
4 3	1	1	ı	l	I	3	OI	I
5 5	1	ı	1	1	I	7	6	П
I 3	ı	ı	ı	1		3	5	t
9 3	I	1	Н	1	1	ŧ	01	61
9 9	1	ı	1	2	I	I	7	3
25 29	61	Ι	I	61	61	OI	50	6

(a) Table showing the number of cases of infectious diseases 1924-33.

ysentery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Dysentery Lethargica	က	I	н	0	2	2	I	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	н	0	н	0	H	0	0	н	0	0
Ccrebro- Spinal Fever	0	0	н	0	0	20	2	0	9	7
Pneumonia	II	12	6	24	29	24	7	20	21	29
Ophtbalmia Neonatorum	6	9	~	∞	7	14	4	Н	4	61
Malaria	I	2	0	0	0	Н	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	7	20	19	17	12	13	21	II	II	IO
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	7	7	4	2	9	4	I
Puerperal Fever	Н	4	7	7	62	3	Н	2	2	I
Typhoid Fever	71	4	12	9	0	9	2	23	91	2
Diphtheria	14	47	222	252	447	86	4	26	II	25
Scarlet	#	53	73	123	223	19	84	58	149	146
Year	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1691	1932	1933

LABORATORY WORK.

The specimens sent to Maidstone for bacteriological examination and the results are as follows:—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Diphtheria Swabs	21	115	136
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	III	228	339
Blood Tests for Typhoid			
Fever	2	6	8
Hairs for Ringworm Para-			
site	I	3	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	I	I	2
Swabs for Streptococci	_	3	3
	136	356	492

SCARLET FEVER.

Cases notified	146
Households affected	137
Removed to Hospital	IIO
Deaths	none

33 cases were under 5 years of age, 97 between 5 and 15, and 16 over these ages.

For many years Scarlet Fever has been of a very mild type, and in my opinion the majority of the uncomplicated cases could very well be kept and supervised at home. Whenever accommodation is suitable I adopt this practice.

The real reason why so many cases desire to go to Hospital is an economic one.

Measles and Whooping Cough are both more serious than Scarlet Fever, and when they are complicated with severe Bronchitis or Pneumonia are certainly more in need of Hospital treatment than mild cases of Scarlet Fever.

IMMUNISATION FOR SCARLET FEVER.

The Dick test and subsequent active immunisation is not practised. It takes a long time, its results are somewhat uncertain, and it is not known with certainty how long immunity lasts.

In the subjoined Table are particulars of Searlet Fever from 1916 to 1932.

Year	Cases Notified	Number Under 5 Years	Deaths	Treated in Hospital	Attack Rate per 1000 Population	Mortality per 1000	Percentage Removed to Hospital
1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932	88 52 93 56 110 145 78 60 44 53 73 123 223 61 84 58 149 146	13 8 7 7 16 19 8 9 12 10 8 22 29 10 16 8 21 33	2 1 1 2 1 2 1 1 2 1 2 1 1 2 1 1 2 1 None	70 43 81 49 87 118 72 58 32 48 55 94 93 52 71 48 103 110	2. 1.2 2.1 1.2 1.8 3.4 1.8 1.3 1.0 1.2 1.7 2.9 5. 1.9 1.3 3.4	.004 .004 .002 .002 .004 .002 .004 .002 .004	79 83 87 88 80 81 91 96 70 90 75 76 42 85 84 82 69 74

DIPHTHERIA.

Cases notified	 	25
Households affeeted	 	23
Removed to Hospital	 	24
Deaths		none

It will be seen from the following Table that the ineidenee of Diphtheria in Chatham has tended to increase every 4 or 5 years. If this rule holds good we may expect an increase of cases within the next year or two, but I trust that owing to the immunisation of a eonsiderable proportion of ehildren during the past three years, this periodical ineidenee will no longer occur.

SUPPLY OF ANTITOXIN.

Antitoxin is always available at the Town Hall, or at the Chief Fire Station.

It is issued to medical men free of charge.

Particulars of Diphtheria from 1916 to 1933.

Year	Cases notified	Deaths	Death Rate per cent. of those attacked
1916	76	3	4
1917	34	2	6
1918	31	I	3
1919	27	2	7
1920	261	13	5
1921	176	16	9
1922	61	6	10
1923	27	1900 e Normalia	_
1924	14	1700 m Thomas	_
1925	47	2	4
1926	222	17	7
1927	252	19	7
1928	447	30	6.7
1929	98	ΙΙ	II.2
1930	44	I	2.3
1931	26		Windowski
1932	II	_	_
1933	25	_	

IMMUNISATION FOR DIPHTHERIA.

For the purpose of protecting young children against Diphtheria

a special session is held once weekly.

The process, if the preliminary Schick test is omitted, entails three attendances at intervals of 14 days, and a final test three months after the last injection. This last test is of great importance, as without it, one cannot say whether immunity is or is not established.

There is considerable apathy and reluctance on the part of many parents to have their children immunised, and it is only by advocating its advantages on every possible opportunity, that this apathy can be overcome.

The numbers attending during 1933 are rather less than in the

two previous years.

	1933	1932	1931
Total new cases	459	575	614
,, immunised	405	561	560
,, Schick negative	26	15	54
,, ,, positive	28	17	119
,, attendances	2295	2819	2716
Average attendance per session	45	55.27	52

The following Table shows the new cases attending during 1933.

6 months to 12 months	45	Two to Three years	Three to Four Years	Four to Five years	Five to Six years	Six to Seven years	Seven to Eight years	Eight to Nine years	Nine to Ten years	Ten to Eleven years	Eleven to Twelve years	Twelve to Thirteen years	Thirteen to Fifteen years	Total
0	17	22	30	28	106	36	20	60	25	29	18	44	24	459

Of the total there were 259 under the age of 8 years, and 200

between 8 and 15 years.

430 had a Schick retest three months after the last immunising dose. 418 attended for inspection of which 17 gave a positive test; and received two or three subsequent injections before a

negative result was obtained.

The prevention of Diphtheria should have the hearty support of all ratepayers. When prevalent the disease has a very disturbing effect on school attendance, whilst the cost of Hospital treatment is a very large item of expenditure. For £20, which is about the average cost of each patient treated in Hospital, 50 children can be protected against the disease, a signal example of economical public health work.

Diphtheria immunisation on this ground alone should be welcomed. It is quite harmless, practically painless, is founded on well reasoned and scientific principles, and I feel confident that

future results will amply justify its continued practice.

Constitutional disturbance is almost unknown, and only

occasionally is there any local reaction.

Toxoid Antitoxin Mixture (T.A.M.) is the prophylactic in general use, but should any local reaction occur after the first injection, Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules are substituted. The latter is more costly. Both preparations have a high immunising efficiency.

In children below eight years the preliminary Schick test is never used. I am inclined to dispense with it entirely in all cases, because even amongst the older children there is always a large proportion of non-immunes, varying from 50 to 80 per cent., and again if not used it diminishes the number of attendances, an important matter from the parents point of view.

Of course, absolute permanent immunity is not guaranteed, but the protection given is almost complete, and in all but a very small proportion lasts many years, and even if a child is attacked

the disease is of a comparatively trivial character.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Two cases were reported during the year, both of which were treated in hospital.

No deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

The only diseases of this type were 2 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. Both received hospital treatment. One case proved fatal. Particulars of the Serum treatment given were sent to the Ministry.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever cases are admitted to St. Williams' Hospital, situated in Rochester, containing 100 beds including 8 cubicles.

Cases are not admitted without the Sanction of the Medical

Officer of Health.

Provision exists for the treatment of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, but there is no accommodation for Measles or Whooping Cough.

SMALL POX.

No cases.

VACCINATION.

The Vaccination Officer has kindly supplied particulars of Vaccination in the Medway Area, comprising Rochester and Chatham.

Birth lists from Registrar	 810
Successfully vaccinated	 512
Declarations of objection	 311
Postponements	 43
Insusceptible	 Ι

ANTHRAX.

One case of Anthrax was reported, but the diagnosis was not confirmed by bacteriological examination.

There were no other diseases of unusual character reported.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

MEASLES.

Every week intimations of cases are received from the elementary schools. During the spring of 1933, several cases were so reported, and all were visited by the school Nurses. In the majority of instances a medical man was in attendance.

There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

One death was registered.

INFLUENZA.

There was no serious prevalence of this disease. 7 deaths occurred in January and February, and doubtless many deaths from Bronchitis or Pneumonia were the result of Influenza.

OTHER DISEASES

CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer was 68, as compared with 53 during 1932, and 80 during 1931.

In the majority of cases the seat of disease was in organs where

it is not easily recognised in the early stages.

There is a Radium Clinic for the treatment of Cancer of the skin, tongue, mouth and uterus, held once a week at the West Kent

General Hospital at Maidstone.

Much of the general increase of Cancer is attributable to the age grouping of the population. It is essentially a disease of later life. A vast amount of research is taking place with regard to the causation of the disease, and its possible prevention. At present, early discovery and surgical interference offers the best hope of success.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Treatment Centre for this Area is administered by the County Council. It is situated at 36 New Road, Rochester.

The Medical Officer H. Nicol, Esq., F.R.C.S., has kindly

supplied the following particulars:—

	1933	1932	1931
Total new patients	613	624	733
Total attendances	25,344	32,975	32,578
Discharged cured	489	319	444
Transferred to other areas	156	104	95
Ceased attendance before			
cure	19	25	70

The Chatham Cases numbered 171 or 27.8 of the total new cases. Of the last 200 recently infected cases 78 or 39 per cent were contracted in Chatham. The attendances made by Chatham patients were 10,427. It is satisfactory to note a diminution of new cases, and an increase of cases discharged. This is partly due to stricter police supervision over prostitutes, and to educational measures respecting the dangers of this class of disease.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

There has been no action under Section 66 of the Public Health Act 1925.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

	Cases Trea	ated	P		S	
Notified	At Home	In Hospital	Vision Unimpaire	Vision Impaired	Tetal Blindness	Deaths
2	2	I	2	_	_	_

TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been no necessity to exercise the powers contained in Section 62 of the Public Health Act of 1925. Similar powers exist in the Chatham Corporation Act of 1923.

Table showing new cases and mortality during 1933.

	New Cases .				Deaths			
	Pulme	onary	Non-Pu	lmonary	Pulmo	nonary Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	М	F
Under 1 year	_	_	_	I	_	_	_	_
I to 5 years	_	_	I	_		_	_	_
5 to 10 years	I	_	I	I	I	_	-	_
10 to 15 years		I	_	_		_	· -	_
15 to 20 years	2	5	_	I	2	I	-	I
20 to 25 years	4	3	I	_	I	-	-	_
25 to 35 years	6	7	I	I	2	I	-	_
35 to 45 years	3	4		I	3	I	-	-
45 to 55 years	5	I	_	_	5	I	-	_
55 to 65 years	3	2	-	-	3	I	-	_
65 years up.	I	2	_	_	-	-	-	-
Total	25	25	4	5	17	5	-	I

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary.			
Total Notifications			50
By Private Practitioner	rs		32
Hospitals			2
Tuberculosis Officer			12
Poor Law Institutions			_
Transferred from other	distr	ricts	4
Non Dulmonary			
Non-Pulmonary.			_
Total Notifications		• • •	9
By Private Practitioner	rs		5
Hospitals			I
Tuberculosis Officer			3
Poor Law Institutions			_
Transferred from other	dist	ricts	_

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-PULMONARY CASES.

Glandular			3
Bones and Jo	oints		3
Peritoneum,	etc.	• • •	3

DELAY IN NOTIFICATION.

	N	otification	Date of
Name		Received.	Death
H.C		29/4/33	28/4/33
E.F		4/8/33	4/8/33
P.H	• • •	26/10/33	26/10/33
G.B		29/12/33	28/12/33

On January 1st, 1933 there were on the Register:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	63	51	114
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	28	20	48

On December 31st, 1933, the numbers were:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	64	59	123
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	27	20	47

The number of cases removed from the Register during 1933 was:—

Pulmonary ... 42 Non-Pulmonary ... 11

Eighteen of the above removals were presumed to be cured, as there was no record of continued treatment, and five years had elapsed since the primary notification.

Twenty-three had died and eleven had left the district. One case was transferred from the Non-Pulmonary to the Pulmonary

list.

There were no deaths from un-notified cases of Tuberculosis.

Dr. Charles Roper, the Tuberculosis Officer for the District has kindly supplied the following particulars relating to Chatham patients attending the Dispensary.

Number of New Cases		 	 163
Total Attendances (Old and	New)	 	 868
Number sent to Institutions		 	 57

Diagnosis. New Patients.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	 	 52
Surgical Tuberculosis	 	 13
Other diseases	 	 IO
Apparently healthy	 	 83
Under observation	 	 5
		163

Institutions to which patients were sent during 1933:—

Lenham Sanatorium		 18
Keycol Hill ,,		 ΙΙ
Grosvenor ,,		 8
Sevenoaks Hip Hospital		 2
Croydon Boro' Sanatorium		 I
St. Nicholas Hospital		 I
Victoria Home, Margate		 I
Cranbrook Convalescent Home		 I
R.S.B. Hospital, Margate		 3
Preston Hall, Aylesford		 I
Tait Convalescent Home		 I
Medway Hospital, Chatham	• • •	 8
Eversfield Chest Hospital		 Ι

RAINFALL DURING 1933.

I am indebted to Mr. Coles Finch for the following particulars of rainfall at Luton and Woolman's Wood.

	Luton	Woolman's Wood
January	 1.57 inches	1.66 inches
February	 1.49 ,,	1.21 ,,
March	 2.60 ,,	2.62 ,,
April	 .68 ,,	.64 ,,
May	 1.95 ,,	2.28 ,,
June	 1.23 ,,	I.42 ,,
July	 2.68 ,,	4.17 ,,
August	 .71 ,,	.67 ,;
September	 2.62 ,,	3.28 ,,
October	 1.54 ,,	1.73 ,,
November	 I.20 ,,	1.18 ,,
December	 .49 ,,	.56 ,,
Totals	 18.76 inches	21.42 inches

